

From: Shafer Ramsey
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'd like to comment on the proposed settlement. I'm opposed to this settlement for the following reasons:

1. The settlement does nothing to redress the wrongs done to the parties actually harmed by Microsoft's actions, such as Netscape. The workers who have been laid off at these companies are receiving nothing through this settlement though they've had their livelihoods effected by Microsoft's illegal actions.
2. Section III (J)(2) of the proposed settlement outlines companies as being an organization that exists for profit, yet Microsoft's internal documents leaked to the public recently state that Microsoft considers it's biggest threat to be from non-profit organizations such as Linux. In the proposed Settlement Microsoft will be not only able to continue unfair and illegal activities against such non-profit organizations but it will be justified in doing so because of the language of this proposed Settlement.
3. Section III (D) continues the language of (J)(2) further to enable Microsoft to shut out competition from non-profit middleware companies such as ISV, IHV, and OEMs.
4. Lastly, the American government itself will be shut out by the language of this proposed Settlement. The Department of Justice, National Standards and Technology, etc. will be classified as non-profit organizations by the language of this Settlement and Microsoft will be open to exploit that new relationship as it sees fit.

In conclusion, this Settlement will not repair the damage done by Microsoft to the people harmed by their earlier illegal actions, and it will allow Microsoft to continue such illegal actions against entirely new organizations in the future. The language of this Settlement is such that it leaves wide avenues for future abuse by Microsoft, and does nothing to repair the damage already inflicted.

Shafer Ramsey
39 Play Rd.
Enfield, CT. 06082

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